



United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

January 31, 2001

Federal Permit Number: «NUM»

«OWN»

«STRT1»

«STRT2»

«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP1»

Dear Permit Holder:

On January 10, 2001, new reporting requirements for Atlantic herring became effective (Permit Holder Letter December 8, 2000). These regulations included detailed dealer and vessel reporting requirements, as well as additional vessel reporting requirements for monitoring the area quotas. This additional requirement for vessels is the use of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system, which is a call-in system for submitting weekly catch reports of Atlantic herring using a touch-tone telephone. A weekly catch report consists of all the Atlantic herring caught by a particular vessel in a week from all trips in that week.

Vessels issued a Federal Atlantic herring Category 2 permit are required to submit a catch report via the IVR **only** if more than 2,000 pounds of Atlantic herring are caught on any trip in a week, even if the herring has not yet been landed. Weekly reports are not required for Category 2 permit holders when Atlantic herring are not caught in a week, or when the amount of Atlantic herring caught is less than 2,000 pounds on all trips in a week.

Vessels which have not reported through the IVR system in the past will be assigned a confidential and unique access code. Your unique code is **not** contained in this package. The reporting information and access code can be obtained by filling out the enclosed post card and sending it back to the National Marine Fisheries Services' Northeast Regional Office.

If you expect that your vessel may land over 2,000 pounds of Atlantic herring on any trip in a week within the next year, **return the enclosed card** with your vessel name and Federal Permit Number, and an access code will be sent to you along with information for submitting a report. Each reporting package will contain:

- Unique access code
- Instructions for submitting a weekly report
- Map of the Atlantic herring management areas
- IVR system reporting week numbers for 2001

If you **do not** expect to land over 2,000 pounds of Atlantic herring on any trip in a week within the next year, **do not return the enclosed card**. If you do not request a reporting package at this time, but may need one in the future, keep the enclosed card and submit it at any time, or contact the Fisheries Statistics Office at the number below. There is no time limit on when access codes can be issued.

Vessel Trip Reports

If you have a Federal Atlantic herring permit, or any other Federal permit with mandatory reporting requirements, you must submit reports for all fishing trips, regardless of species fished for or caught. These reports must be submitted monthly (no later than the 15th day of the following month after a fishing trip(s)) and, if no fish are landed or no fishing trip is taken during a month, a report so stating must be submitted. You will be sent forms and instructions, including the address to which to submit reports, shortly after you receive your Federal Atlantic herring permit.

Carrier or processing vessels that have been issued a Federal Atlantic herring permit with trip reporting requirements are only required to submit Fishing Vessel Trip Reports for which they fished. If no fishing trip is taken during a month, the negative report, as stated above is required.

For additional information contained in this letter, please contact the following:

IVR information	Fisheries Statistics Office	(978) 281-9212
Federal Permits	Permit Office	(978) 281-9370
Other reporting information	Local Port Agent	See attached list
Other reporting information	Regional Office Email	reporting.ne@noaa.gov
Information mentioned in this letter	Fisheries Statistics Office Website	http://www.nero.nmfs.gov/ro/doc/nero.html

Sincerely,

Gregory R. Power, Chief
Fisheries Information Section

Enclosures